Development of environment projects in Maharashtra

2814. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided by Government to Maharashtra Government for development and promotion of environment projects during the last two years;

(b) whether the funds provided by Government have been fully utilized by the State Government for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra was provided with financial assistance for development and promotion of environment projects under the following schemes:—

1. National river Conservation Plan.
2. National Air Quality Monitoring Programme.
3. Zoning Atlas.
4. National Water Quality Monitoring Programme.
5. National Lake Conservation Plan.

The funds provided to the State Government during the last two years for the purpose and the funds utilized by them are as under:-

Year	Amount released	Amount utilized
2000-2001	Rs. 12.20 crores	Rs. 4.78 crores
2001-2002	Rs. 19.51 crores	Rs. 16.31 crores

Population control of leopards

2815. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of a quantum jump in the leopard population from 1324 to 1961 in Uttaranchal and the increasing incidence of human beings falling prey to man-eaters in the recent years;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to adopt some sort of